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(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: **STOEPPELWERTH, Paul, B** [US/US]; 9635
Autry Falls Drive, Alpharetta, GA 30022 (US).

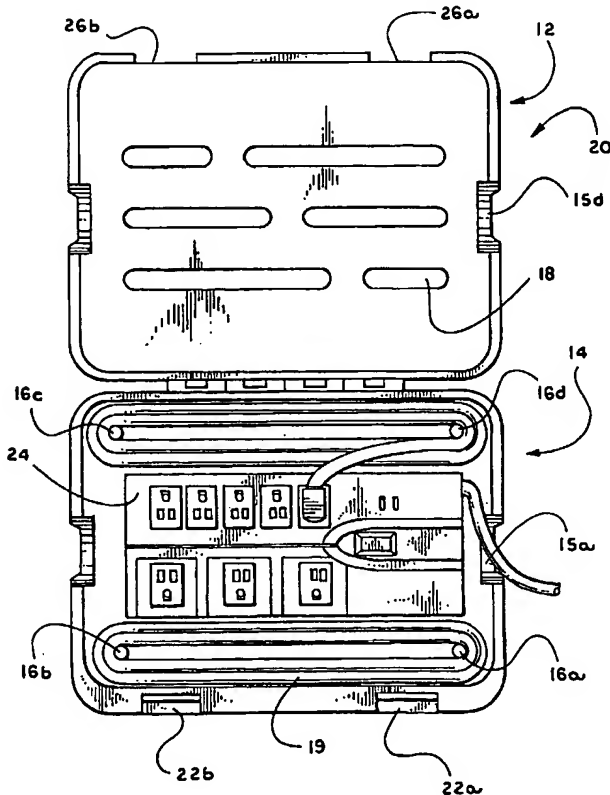
(74) Agent: **KNOWLTON, Paul, E.**; Parks Knowlton LLC,
1117 Perimeter Center West, Suite W-307, Atlanta, GA
30338 (US).

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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORING AND P ROTECTING CONDUIT



(57) Abstract: Taught herein is a manifold (10) for housing an outlet (24) and related conduit (19). The manifold (10) provides a means for gathering, storing and protecting excess conduit associated with the outlet and the conduit connected to the outlet (16). The manifold includes conduit apertures (15) to allow conduit to ingress and egress the manifold. The manifold may also include ventilation apertures (18) to allow airflow. The manifold may (10) be a clam-shell style housing, with hinged top and bottom portions (12, 14). Additionally, the manifold may be made of a fire-resistant material and may include skid-resistant feet. For additional safety, the manifold may include a locking device (22) to secure the manifold in a closed condition. The present invention also teaches the method of gathering, storing and protecting an outlet and related excess conduit within a ventilated manifold.

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR,

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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations
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